

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 04389 290430Z
ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 ERDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07
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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO NSF WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2205

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 4389

NSF FOR DR. EDWARDS

DEPT PASS ERDA FOR NORMAN BROWN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, IN, USINJC
SUBJECT: COLLABORATION IN SOLAR ENERGY

REF: STATE 033225

1. INFORMATION CONTAINED IN REFTEL WAS SENT BY LETTER TO DR.R.D. DESHPANDE, DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DOST), FEBRUARY 18. DESHPANDE'S RESPONSE WAS BRIEF AND DID NOT ANSWER POINTS RAISED IN REFTEL. SCIENCE OFFICERS HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO GO OVER THE QUESTIONS RAISED IN REFTEL IN PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS UNTIL LAST WEEK. DESHPANDE HAS BEEN OUT OF STATION AND OUT OF THE COUNTRY.

2. DESHPANDE AGREED THAT MORE PREPARATORY EFFORT WOULD HAVE TO BE DONE BEFORE IT WOULD MAKE MUCH SENSE TO INVITE POTENTIAL U.S. COLLABORATORS TO INDIA. AS A MATTER OF FACT DR. GURURAJA OF DOST HAS REQUESTED INFORMATION ON THE JPL 12-KW POWER SYSTEM AND ON THE POWER TOWER FROM DAN SCHNEIDERMAN, JPL. SCHNEIDERMAN SENT SOME OF THE REQUESTED INFORMATION TO GURURAJA.
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IN THIS AREA THERE IS AN INFORMATION EXCHANGE GOING ON.

3. SCIENCE OFFICE SUGGESTED TO GURURAJA AND DESHPANDE THAT INDIAN PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS (PI) BE IDENTIFIED AND THAT SOME PRELIMINARY CORRESPONDENCE TAKE PLACE BEFORE VISITS BY PI'S FROM EITHER SIDE BE ARRANGED. WE EXPECT WITHIN THE NEXT WEEK OR SO THAT INDIAN PI'S

WILL BE IDENTIFIED AND THAT THEY WILL INDICATE WHO
THEY WOULD LIKE TO WORK WITH ON THE U.S. SIDE.

4. AT THE PRESENT TIME DESHPANDE SUGGESTS THAT THEY
WOULD LIKE TO WORK WITH SCHNEIDERMAN AT JPL ON THE
12-KW SOLAR POWER PLANT, PROFESSOR FARBER ON RESEARCH
ON SOLAR ENERGY STORAGE, AND DR. MEINEL INSTEAD OF
MR. BRANSON ON DEVELOPMENT OF SOLAR PUMPS.

5. SCIENCE OFFICE REALLY FEELS AS NOTED IN PARA 3 OF
REFTEL THAT THERE SHOULD BE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN DOST
OR POTENTIAL INDIAN PI'S ON THESE PROJECTS BEFORE ANY
VISITS ARE MADE. SCICOUNS POINTED OUT TO DESHPANDE THAT,
UNLESS THERE IS CONSIDERABLE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN
POTENTIAL COLLABORATORS, ANOTHER MEETING MIGHT NOT
PRODUCE ANY MORE THAN THE OUTLINES OF PROPOSALS THAT
WERE EFFECTIVELY DONE AT THE SOLAR WORKSHOP LAST SUMMER.

6. EMBASSY WILL FOLLOW UP ON THIS AS SOON AS DOST
HAS HAD A CHANCE TO EXAMINE THE POSSIBILITIES. SCHNEIDER

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